

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
6 October 2005 (06.10.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/093613 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **G06F 17/60**,
H04L 12/16

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/CA2004/002167

(22) International Filing Date:
20 December 2004 (20.12.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/556,379 26 March 2004 (26.03.2004) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **CRYSTALLON SYSTEMS INC.** [CA/CA]; 6548 East Hastings Street, Burnaby, British Columbia V5B 1S2 (CA).

(72) Inventors; and

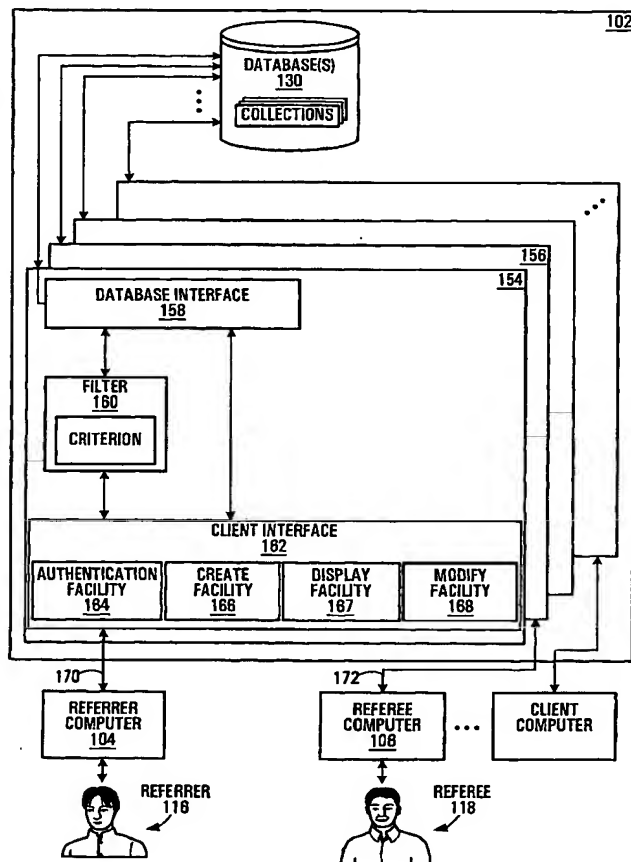
(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **BALDWIN, Gregory, Arthur** [CA/CA]; 2286 Ottawa Avenue, West Vancouver, British Columbia V7V 2S6 (CA). **BURIANYK, Damian, Nicholas** [CA/CA]; T25-9521 Cardston Court, Burnaby, British Columbia V3N 4R8 (CA). **MCKENZIE, Robbie, James** [CA/CA]; T25-9521 Cardston Court, Burnaby, British Columbia V3N 4R8 (CA).

(74) Agents: **GILEFF, David, A.** et al.; Smart & Biggar, Box 11560, Vancouver Centre, 650 West Georgia Street, Suite 2200, Vancouver, British Columbia V6B 4N8 (CA).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: REFERRAL MANAGEMENT METHOD, APPARATUS AND SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: A referral information communication and management method, apparatus and system, with related computer-readable media, signals, data-structures and program codes, involving, in response to signals received from respective client computers associated with a referrer and referee of a referral from the referrer to the referee: (1) storing information pertaining to the referral in a database as a collection of linked information units, the information units including a referrer identifier identifying the referrer as originator of the information and a referee identifier identifying the referee as intended recipient of the information, the collection representing the referral and being accessible by the respective client computers; (2) identifying collections of information units that satisfy a criterion, and displaying corresponding identifications at one of the client computers; (3) causing at least one information unit in a collection corresponding to a displayed identification, to be displayed at the client computer; and (4) causing at least one information unit in a collection corresponding to a displayed identification, to be modified.



PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declaration under Rule 4.17:

— *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only*

Published:

— *with international search report*

(84) **Designated States** (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO,

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.